Eastman Kodak Company – Kodak Park

EPA Identification Number: NYD9805922497

Other (Former) Names of Site

None

Site Description

Eastman Kodak Company is the largest photographic product manufacturing facility in the world, and the largest industrial complex in the United States. The facility is approximately 2000 acres and extends approximately 4 miles through the City of Rochester and the Town of Greece. At one time there were 200 major manufacturing buildings, but over time some of them ceased operations. By 2002, more than 50 buildings had been demolished. The facility is surrounded by a mix of commercial, industrial and residential properties, and is bounded on the east by the Genesee River and extends to New York State Route 390 on the west.

Eastman Kodak has operated at this site since 1891. It manufactures about 1000 varieties of film and nearly 300 kinds of photographic paper. The principal operations include the manufacture of film and paper base; preparation and coating of photographic emulsions; manufacture of toners; production of synthetic organic chemicals, couplers, and dyes; and the cutting, packaging and distribution of finished products. In addition, Eastman Kodak serves as an industrial park for affiliated or allied businesses. Currently, there are 15,000 people employed by Eastman Kodak at this site. Hazardous waste management facilities at Eastman Kodak include tanks, containers, transfer stations, a wastewater treatment plant and two incinerators.

Site Responsibility and Legal Instrument

The Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit, issued in April 1986, is still in effect. On September 15, 1995, Eastman Kodak submitted a New York State (NYS) Part 373 permit application, which has been revised several times over the last seven years. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will issue the Part 373 permit by 2004. In the interim, the facility operates under NYS Interim Status, meaning that it is subject to RCRA regulations during this time, and under Consent Orders issued by EPA and NYSDEC.

Potential Threats and Contaminants

During investigations conducted by Eastman Kodak, soils on site were contaminated with elevated levels of metals, volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs and

SVOCs). Groundwater is contaminated primarily with VOCs, although other constituents have been detected at elevated concentrations in a few other areas. Contaminated groundwater in the shallow flow zones is generally contained on-site.

Off-site migration of contamination in deep bedrock groundwater does occur in several areas of the site, and groundwater is not used in nearby residential areas as a potable water supply. Potable water is supplied by the Monroe County Water Authority, and is also obtained from surface waters nearby. Based on sampling data obtained by Eastman Kodak, there is no evidence that any surface water used for drinking has been impacted by this facility. The extracted and treated groundwater is discharged into the Genesee River under a New York State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

Soil gas and indoor air testing have been conducted in several residential areas adjacent to Eastman Kodak. This testing has not identified any volatile vapors attributable to the operations at the Eastman Kodak facility. The permit to be issued by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will require an on-site exposure to indoor air survey since there are contaminated plumes under facility buildings.

Cleanup Approach and Progress

Approximately 670 solid waste management units (SWMUs) were identified during the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI). As of 2002, Eastman Kodak had formally completed RFIs for 400 of the 670 SWMUs. Final remedies have been implemented at more than 200 SWMUs.

Many interim corrective measures have also been implemented during the past 10 years, including source removal, pump-and-treat programs, and containment trenches. Access controls are in place to limit potential exposures to contaminated soils. These measures include capping, fencing, paving or otherwise covering the soils to preclude direct contact.

Due to the release of dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs) and the fractured bedrock underlying this site, restoration of groundwater quality to drinking water standards may not be technically achievable (even though New York State classifies all groundwater as potential drinking water and its goal is to restore aquifers, the State recognizes that there are circumstances where this is not possible). Therefore, the general remediation approach has been hydraulic containment of all groundwater on site.

Groundwater recovery methods in use include overburden french drains, deep bedrock trenches, conventional pumping wells, hydro-fractured bedrock wells, and fractured bedrock trenches created through controlled blasting. Recovered water is treated at Kodak=s wastewater treatment plant. Preliminary data from groundwater monitoring wells placed on the facility boundary suggests that presently there is no migration of contaminated groundwater off-site in the shallow aquifer. However, there is off-site migration from the deep aquifers in areas and this is undergoing remediation.

Eastman Kodak has implemented groundwater cleanup actions at many locations, and they are currently pumping and treating approximately 50 million gallons of groundwater annually. Eastman Kodak also implemented a dual phase soil vapor/groundwater extraction system in response to a major spill from a solvent transfer line. Since 1990, Eastman Kodak has also excavated approximately 150,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil for proper disposal. The overall number of tanks has been reduced from approximately 1,100 to approximately 450.

Site Repository

Copies of supporting technical documents and correspondence cited in this site fact sheet are available for public review at:

USEPA Region 2
RCRA Records Center
290 Broadway, 15th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

NYSDEC - Albany
Bureau of Radiation and Hazardous Site Management
Division of Solid & Hazardous Materials
625 Broadway, 8th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7252